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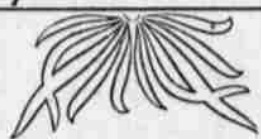
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HAWAII BEST FOR TOBACCO.

Plantation to Be Established at Hamakua For Commercial Production.

A tobacco plantation is to be started in Hawaii, to test the commercial production of the article. The projectors of the new enterprise are J. B. Castle, J. P. Cooke and Geo. Thielen, and the experiment will be made in the most thorough way, Jared G. Smith, of the Government Experiment Station, having placed his experience in tobacco culture entirely at the service of the projectors of the new plantation free of charge. Indeed, the man who has had charge of the tobacco growing experiments of the United States government at Hamakua, Mr. C. W. Blacow, is to be the manager of the new tobacco plantation.

It is the purpose of the projectors of the enterprise to put in fifteen acres of tobacco this coming spring on lands in the vicinity of the lands used for the government experiment at Hamakua. Afterwards, if it is found that the experiment is commercially successful, more lands will be secured and the plantation enlarged. The new plantation will have large drying and curing houses for green tobacco, sufficient to dry and cure tobacco grown by smaller growers outside, and it is one purpose of the enterprise, to buy outside tobacco and promote its cultivation by small landowners.

The tobacco farm at Hamakua has been run by the United States government now for three years, in an experimental way, and it has been shown that the soil and climate there are admirably adapted for the cultivation of tobacco. There is profit in raising tobacco at thirty cents a pound, according to Jared G. Smith, and yet Mr. Smith has been offered four dollars and a quarter a pound for all the Hamakua tobacco fit for cigar wrappers that he can raise. This offer was made by an expert who lately visited the Hamakua station. Indeed, experts who have smoked cigars made of Hamakua tobacco have pronounced them equal to the finest Havanas. This, it may be, is over-enthusiasm—but the Hamakua cigars are undoubtedly very fine.

At all events, neither money nor time will be spared to demonstrate on the new plantation that tobacco culture on the Hawaiian Islands can be carried on successfully, and with the success of the plan will come the establishment of the production of another staple crop for the Territory. The day of dependence upon one industry will then be drawing still faster to its close. Of course sugar is not to be overlooked, nor even to yield first place, but there is a large and growing element that is disinclined to continue to be dependent, as heretofore, upon one product. There is homely wisdom in the old advice not to put all the eggs in one basket.—Advertiser.

Tule Life Buys Best.

Among the survivors from the ghastly wreck of the S. S. Valencia on the jagged coast of Vancouver Island was Professor Frank Bunker bound to Seattle to take charge of the city's school system. He had the awful anguish of seeing his wife and two children perish before his eyes and is at present much quoted in the coast papers as to the details of the disaster.

One particular charge he makes is that the life-preservers of the Valencia were made of "rushes which sink and are not buoyant like cork."

Capt. Bulger, at Honolulu, stated that the Valencia was inspected at Seattle which is not in his district. As to the "rush" or tule life buoys, he said that they are distinctly superior to the cork.

"At Hilo quite recently," he said, "we made some experiments in the matter of the respective merits of buoys, before some of the island captains and the advantage of tule over cork was effectively demonstrated."

If all these lecturers on Hawaii get started together we shall rival the Kickapoo Indian medicine people in that style of advertisement.—Star.

BIG YEAR IN SUGAR.

Value of Product Brought Into This Country a Record Breaker.

The value of sugar brought into this country during 1905 will far exceed that of any other earlier year, according to a bulletin issued by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. The bulletin says: "The value of sugar imported during the 11 months of 1905 ended with November was \$148,575,345, of which \$51,485,256 was from the contiguous territory of the United States. The estimate is that the total sugar imports for 1905 will aggregate considerably above \$150,000,000, while the highest figure in any fiscal year prior to 1905 was \$127,000,000 in 1894, when an unusually large quantity was imported in anticipation of a large change in the tariff.

"The United States is increasing steadily and rapidly in its consumption of sugar, and importations have doubled in the last 20 years, while the population meantime increased about 50 per cent. The United States is the largest sugar consuming country in the world. The average consumption for each individual in 1904 was about 75 pounds. The United States consumes about one-fourth of the sugar production of the world. Nearly all the sugar brought into this country is produced from cane, and the United States consumes fully one-half of the cane sugar produced in the world. Cane sugar is forming at present a larger proportion of the world's sugar supply than during 1890-1892. Among the countries contributing to the sugar consumption of the United States for the fiscal year 1905 were Cuba 2,057,690,839 pounds, Java 899,394,575 pounds, Hawaii 832,721,387 pounds, Porto Rico 271,319,993 pounds, Germany (principally beet sugar) 205,084,302 pounds, West Indies, other than Cuba, 202,639,835 pounds, South America, 168,557,528 pounds, Philippine islands 77,997,424 pounds. The domestic crop of 1904 was 1,167,250,560 pounds."

Cash Value of Climate.

It does seem rather odd to give shining twenty-dollar gold pieces (just from the mint and wanted by everybody) for dry air, warmed by a genial sun to the right temperature. Air is supposed to be one of the few things that anybody may have for the asking—a commodity entirely outside of the dominion of the trusts; which cannot be bottled up and sold over the counter. Yet many wise financiers are willing and glad to pay one dollar for the azure blue above it, out in California.

Let us try to find the reason for this strange reversal of the usual value.

Why did you come to California? Why did your next-door neighbor come, and the pleasant friends across the street, and the acquaintances in the adjoining block?

In the last analysis, it was because of a more perfect climate. Note the use of the comparative. There is no flawless climate anywhere. But in California, where every month is June, the weather conditions are nearer ideal than in any other of Uncle Sam's United States of America. The scientists who manage the weather bureau can glibly tell just why mountains, desert and tradewinds have here combined to produce a climate which is nearly 100 per cent pure. They can explain why this same section is both warm in winter and cool in summer. What you and I are more interested in is the unusual fact itself, not the why and wherefore.

For every person who came to California because of gold discoveries, or sordidly to make money, or as a restless adventurer ten persons came because they were in love with the weather. And this is not said in disparagement of the marvelous material resources of the state.—Wm. H. Simpson in the Pacific Monthly for January.

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